FIG. 1

```
┌─────────────────────────┐
│     HEAD RECEIVER       │──100
│      POWERED UP         │
└─────────────────────────┘
            │
            ▼
┌─────────────────────────┐
│ DETERMINE WHICH FREQUENCIES │──101
│    ARE AVAILABLE        │
└─────────────────────────┘
            │
            ▼
┌─────────────────────────┐
│ POLL NODE TO DETERMINE NUMBER │──102
│ OF ACTIVE SET TOP BOXES IN NODE │
└─────────────────────────┘
            │
            ▼
┌─────────────────────────┐
│     PARTITION SET TOP   │──103
└─────────────────────────┘
            │
            ▼
┌─────────────────────────┐
│  COMMAND SET TOP BOX TO │──104
│ TUNE TO ASSIGNED CHANNEL│
└─────────────────────────┘
            │
            ▼
┌─────────────────────────┐
│   ASSIGN SET TOP BOX    │──105
│     TO TIME SLOT        │
└─────────────────────────┘
            │
            ▼
┌─────────────────────────┐
│      BROADCAST          │──106
│     TIME STAMP          │
└─────────────────────────┘
```

HEAD RECEIVER POWERED UP — 100

DETERMINE WHICH FREQUENCIES ARE AVAILABLE — 101

POLL NODE TO DETERMINE NUMBER OF ACTIVE SET TOP BOXES IN NODE — 102

PARTITION SET TOP — 103

COMMAND SET TOP BOX TO TUNE TO ASSIGNED CHANNEL — 104

ASSIGN SET TOP BOX TO TIME SLOT — 105

BROADCAST TIME STAMP — 106

INITIALIZATION — 107

YES

ECHO — 108

RESPONSE — 109

INCREMENT TIMER — 110

YES

NO

ASSIGN TIMING TO SET TOP BOX — 111

TRANSMIT CORRECTION FACTOR — 112

SUBTRACT IN SET TOP BOX FROM SLOT TIME — 113

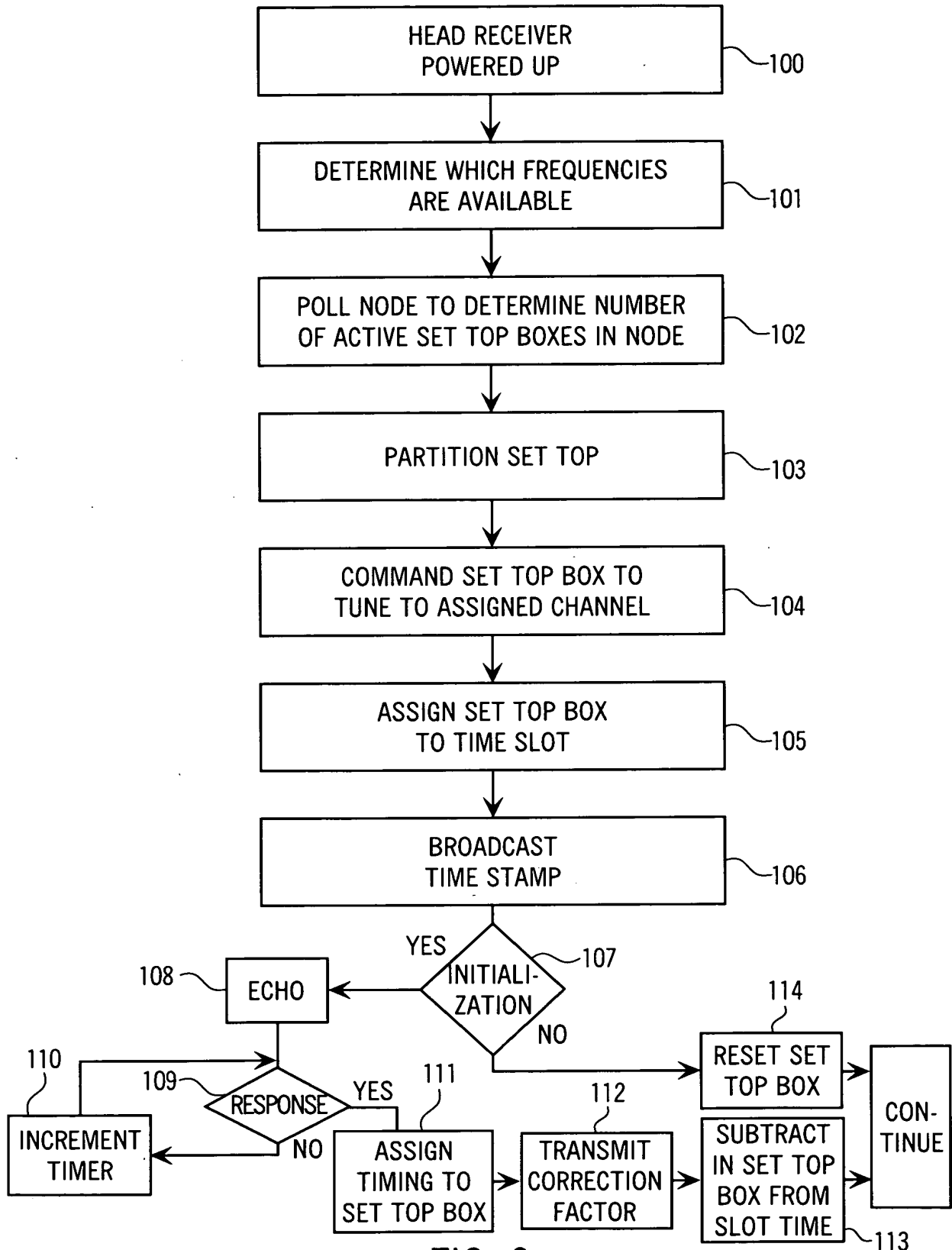RESET SET TOP BOX — 114

CONTINUE

NO

FIG. 2

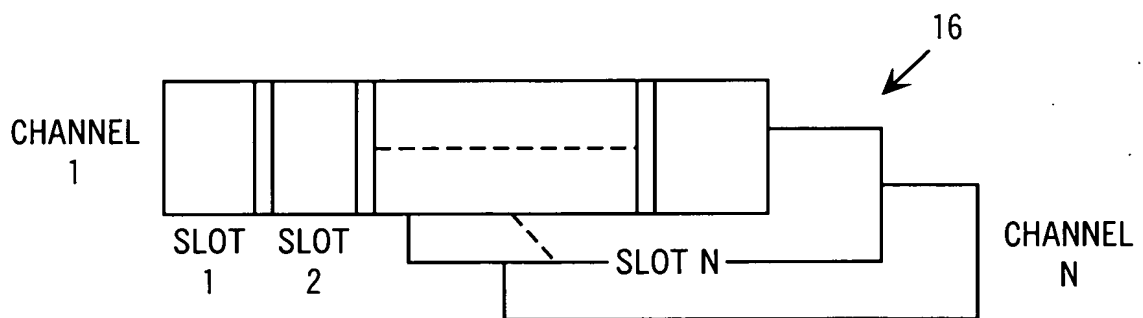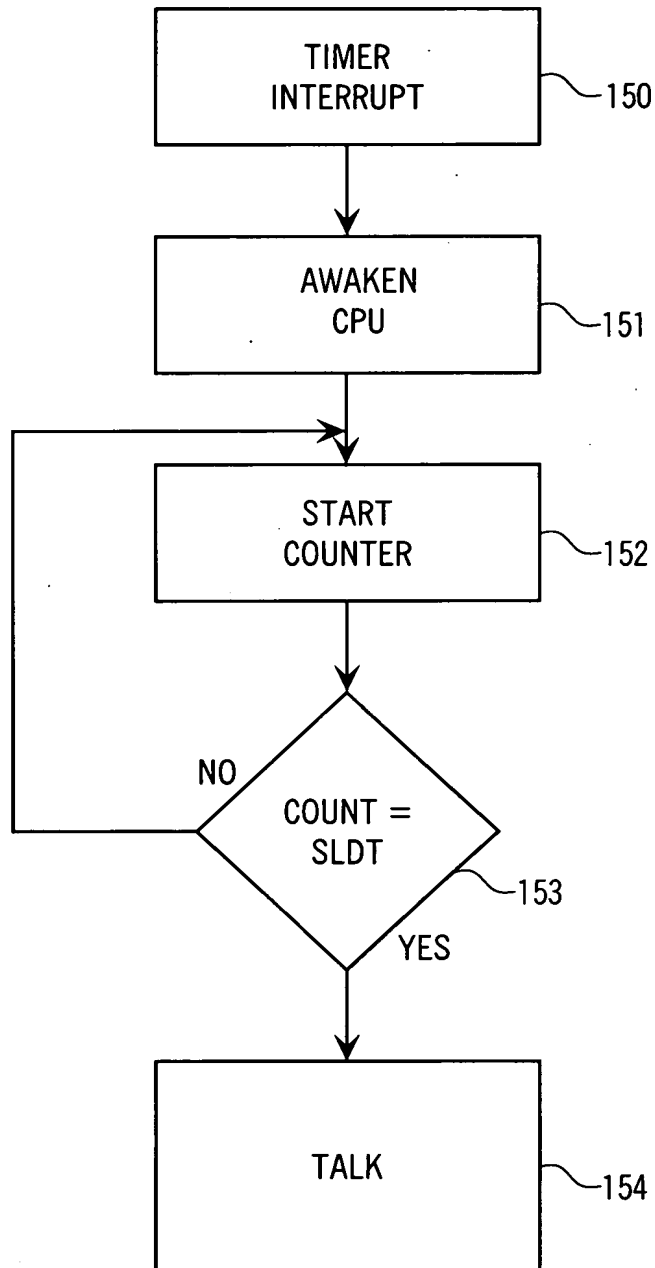| CHANNEL	STATUS	ALLOCATION TABLE ENTRY	
1	BUSY	—	
2	AVAILABLE	2	
.		.	
.		.	
.		.	
.		.	
.		.	
.		N-1	
N	BUSY	—	

14

FIG. 3

CHANNEL 1

SLOT 1 SLOT 2 SLOT N CHANNEL N

16

FIG. 4

FIG. 5